

Page 12, line 8, insert the following heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 12, line ¹⁴~~17~~, insert the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Page 12, amend the paragraph beginning at line 15 as follows:

FIG. 1 depicts a conventional system where process gas of hydrocarbon feedstock [1] and steam [2] is introduced in a pre-reformer [20] at temperatures of about 450° C to 550°C. By the steam reforming reactions proceeding in the pre-reformer, the temperature in the process gas usually decreases or increases slightly when carrying out the pre-reforming process depending on the hydrocarbon feedstock, feedstock as it is an adiabatic operation. The pre-reformed product stream [4] and optionally carbon dioxide [9] [8] enter the heating coil. The optional addition of CO₂ is indicated by a dashed line.

Page 13, amend the paragraph beginning at line 10 as follows:

Hydrocarbon feed [1] is mixed with process steam [2] forming the feed stream [3] to the adiabatic pre-reformer [20]. This step is optional and can be left out if it is not required. Steam and/or CO₂ can then be added if desired to the pre-reformed product stream [4] or in the case where pre-reforming is not required, to the hydrocarbon and steam feed stream [3]. The mixture then enters a process heating coil [21] situated in the flue gas section [27] from a fired